[3-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3 S-hydroxypropanoyl]-1,3,4-trihydroxycyclohexanecarboxylic acid, (1S, 3R, 4R, 5R)-4-[3-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3R-hydroxypropanoyl]-1,3,5-trihydroxycyclohexanecarboxylic acid, (1S, 3R, 4R, 5R)-4-[3-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-3S-hydroxypropanoyl]-1,3,5-trihydroxycyclohexanecarboxylic acid, cis-5-O-caffeoylquinic acid, 3-O-caffeoylquinic acid lactone, and 3-O-caffeoyl-4-O-feruloylquinic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. The method of claim **12**, wherein the composition is formulated for administration selected from the group consisting of auricular, oral, parenteral, intraperitoneal, local, buccal, nasal, and topical administration.

16. The method of claim **12**, wherein said composition is in the form of a liquid, tablet, or capsule.

17. The method of claim **12**, wherein the composition further comprises one or more of an excipient, a preserving agent, a solubilizing agent, a stabilizing agent, a wetting agent, an emulsifier, a sweetener, a colorant, an odorant, a salt, a buffer, a coating agent, and an antioxidant.

18. The method of claim **12**, wherein the auditory impairment is hearing loss or deafness.

19. The method of claim **12**, wherein the auditory impairment was effected by an insult that can damage the auditory system.

20. A composition comprising an effective amount of a quinic acid derivative and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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